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Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Letter dated 30 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Togo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report on the announcement of the results of the presidential election which took place in Togo on 4 March 2010, which resulted in the re-election of Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé for a five-year term (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 11.

(*Signed*) Kodjo **Menan**
Ambassador
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Annex to the letter dated 30 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Togo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I. Report on the announcement of the 4 March 2010 presidential election results

Following the announcement by the National Independent Electoral Commission (CENI) of the provisional results of the 4 March 2010 presidential election, the candidates, with the exception of Mr. Jean-Pierre Fabre and Mr. Jean-Nicolas Lawson, filed appeals before the Constitutional Court either to invalidate the election (Organisation pour batir dans l'union un Togo solidaire Comité d'action pour le renouveau) or to correct its results (Rassemblement du peuple togolais, Parti démocratique panafricain).

The appeals have been denied as unfounded, with the exception of the appeal of Ms. Adjamagbo-Johnson, which was rejected because the notice of appeal had been filed outside the prescribed time limits.

In the light of the report of the National Independent Electoral Commission, the Constitutional Court, at its session from 12 to 17 March 2010, oversaw the final tabulation of votes throughout the country, prefecture by prefecture, region by region, in order to calculate the final number of votes cast and obtained by each candidate.

The results of this thorough analysis show that out of 3,277,492 registered voters, 2,119,892 cast their votes, with 2,040,546 valid ballots.

On 18 March 2010, the Constitutional Court announced the final results, as follows:

Mr. Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé (Rassemblement du peuple togolais, RPT): 1,242,409 votes, or 60.88 per cent;

Mr. Jean-Pierre Fabre (Union des forces de changement, UFC): 692,554 votes, or 33.93 per cent;

Mr. Yawovi Agboyibo (Comité d'action pour le renouveau, CAR): 60,370 votes, or 2.95 per cent;

Mr. Agbéyomé Kodjo (Organisation pour batir dans l'union un Togo solidaire, OBUTS): 17,393 votes, or 0.85 per cent;

Ms. Kafui Brigitte Adjamagbo-Johnson (Convention démocratique des peuples africains, CDPA): 13,452 votes, or 0.65 per cent;

Mr. Bassabi Kagbara (Parti démocratique panafricain, PDP): 8,341 votes, or 0.40 per cent;

Mr. Jean-Nicolas Lawson (Parti du renouveau et de la rédemption, PRR): 6,027 votes, or 0.29 per cent.

In the light of these results, the Constitutional Court confirmed the re-election of the sitting President and RPT candidate, Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé.

Both the national and international communities welcomed the peacefulness, transparency and freedom which characterized the electoral process.

As proof, Togo's partners (including the European Union (EU), the African Union (AU), the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), France, China, Portugal, Algeria and Morocco) recognized that the 4 March presidential election was conducted in accordance with international standards and are continuing to congratulate the sitting President on his election to lead his country.

Despite the unanimity among the international community regarding the transparency of the election leading to the victory by President Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé, however, certain opposition leaders, following the example of UFC and CAR, for different and contradictory reasons, have declared that they do not accept the announced results. The Front républicain pour l'alternance et le changement (FRAC), a coalition of political opposition parties which includes UFC, has chosen to take to the streets to protest the re-election of the sitting President.

The international community has called on the Togolese political leadership to show wisdom by settling disputes through legal means.

II. Comments on the reports of the foreign electoral observation missions

For this election, several foreign electoral observation missions were accredited to our country throughout the process. They included missions from the European Union, the African Union, ECOWAS, CEN-SAD, ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and several African non-governmental organizations.

European Union and European Parliament. During the electoral process, 130 European observers and seven members of European Parliament were deployed. In its preliminary report, the European Union and European Parliament missions stated that the electoral process was carried out in an atmosphere of calm, without major incidents.

African Union. It deployed 40 observers throughout the country. In its report, the African Union observation mission found that, overall, the 4 March 2010 election was carried out in a free and transparent manner.

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). ECOWAS deployed 206 observers throughout the territory of Togo, including 103 civilians and 166 military personnel. At the end of their mission, ECOWAS observers concluded that the election campaign had been carried out in a convivial and peaceful atmosphere, without any major incidents. Overall, they found the election satisfactory, as evidenced by the high voter turnout and the visible presence of representatives of the candidates at the polls, most of which had been equipped with adequate material resources. The ECOWAS mission felt that the collection and counting of ballots and announcement of the preliminary results had been carried out in a transparent, consensual manner at the polling centres, in the presence of representatives of the candidates. The mission further recommended that the candidates should accept the results of the election, and expressed the hope that any appeals would be filed exclusively through legal and constitutional means.

Coordination des experts électoraux africains (CEEA) and the Réseau des observateurs de la société civile africaine pour la transparence électorale (ROSCAITE). A group of 16 African non-governmental organizations deployed 191 observers throughout Togo. In their report, those observers concluded that the presidential election was peaceful and democratic. In view of the Coordination group, the election campaign had been carried out in a climate of calm, and in an atmosphere of mutual respect among candidates.

The maturity of Togolese political leadership and the professionalism of the Force de sécurité élection présidentielle (FOSEP) and the ECOWAS security mission in their supervisory function were also welcomed.

In the end, at the conclusion of the 4 March 2010 presidential election, the observation missions agreed unanimously that the process as a whole had been democratic, peaceful, credible and transparent.